REMARKS

Claims 32, 35, 39-41 and 47 are presented for consideration, with Claims 32 and 47 being independent.

Claims 32 and 47 have been amended to further distinguish Applicants' invention from the cited art. Claims 33, 34, 36, 37, 44, 48 and 49 have been cancelled.

Initially, Claims 32-37, 39-41, 44 and 47-49 stand rejected on obviousness-type double patenting grounds as allegedly being unpatentable over Claims 1-11 of U.S. Patent No. 6,839,054.

Without conceding to the propriety of this rejection, Claim 32 has been amended to include a driving circuit with a plurality of transistors connected in parallel to one of a plurality of modulated signal wirings, with the plurality of transistors including a first transistor and a second transistor. A time period in which the first transistor is in an on state and a time period in which the second transistor is in an on state are different from each other.

Support for the amendments to Claim 32 can be found, for example, in Figure 23 and the accompanying specification on page 59, line 18, *et. seq.*

It is submitted that at least the amended features in Claim 32 render Applicants' invention patentably distinct from the claims in the '054 patent.

With respect to Claim 47, this claim relates to an image display apparatus that includes at least one pulse signal having a first portion at the leading edge and a second portion at the trailing edge. As amended, Claim 47 recites that in the first portion, a signal level of the pulse rises up to a first predetermined level which is lower than a maximum level of the pulse

signal and is maintained at the first predetermined level, and wherein, in the second portion, a signal level of the pulse falls down to a second predetermined level which is lower than the maximum level of the pulse signal and is maintained at the second predetermined level.

Support for the amendments to Claim 47 can be found, for example, in Figures 35 and 38 and the accompanying specification on page 77, line 4, *et. seq.*

It is submitted that at least the amended features of Claim 47 render Applicants' invention patentably distinct from the claims in the '054 patent.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the double patenting rejection is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Claims 32-37, 39-41, 44 and 47-49 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Amano '607. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 32 of Applicants' invention relates to an image display apparatus comprised of a plurality of display devices wired in a matrix through a plurality of scanning signal wirings and a plurality of modulated signal wirings, and a driving circuit configured to apply a modulated signal having a modulated pulsewidth to each of the plurality of modulated signal wirings. As amended, Claim 32 recites that the driving circuit has a plurality of transistors connected in parallel to one of the plurality of modulated signal wirings. The plurality of transistors includes a first transistor and a second transistor, and a time period in which the first transistor is in an on state and a time period in which the second transistor is in an on state are different from each other.

In Claim 47, an image display apparatus includes a plurality of display devices wired in a matrix through a plurality of scanning signal wirings and a plurality of modulated signal wirings, and a drive circuit configured to apply a pulse signal as a modulated signal having a modulated pulsewidth to each of the plurality of modulated signal wirings. At least one pulse signal has a first portion at a leading edge of the pulse signal and a second portion at the trailing edge of the pulse signal. As amended, in the first portion a signal level of the pulse rises up to a first predetermined level which is lower than the maximum level of the pulse signal and is maintained at the first predetermined level, and in the second portion a signal level of the pulse falls down to a second predetermined level which is lower than the maximum level of the pulse signal and is maintained at the second predetermined level.

The video display system in Amano includes a flat panel having an X and Y matrix. The row lines X and column lines Y are driven to adjust the brightness of the video display by changing the combination of a width and an amplitude of a driving pulse.

With respect to Claim 32, however, Amano is not understood to teach or suggest, among other features, a driving circuit with a plurality of transistors connected in parallel to one of the modulated signal wirings. To the contrary, Amano shows in Figure 5 a single transistor Q connected to the signal wirings. It follows then, that Amano also fails to provide first and second transistors connected in parallel to one of the modulated signal wirings and in an on state at different time periods from each other as set forth in Applicants' Claim 32.

With respect to Claim 47, Amano is not read to teach or suggest a pulse signal with a first portion and a second portion having signal levels as set forth in Applicants' claimed invention. In this regard, the Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to Figure 9 in Amano.

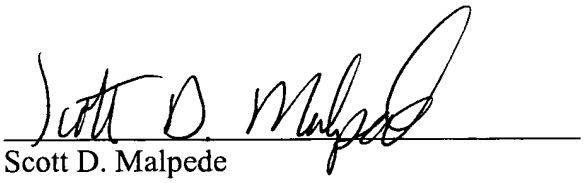
Accordingly, it is submitted that Amano fails to teach or suggest Applicants' claimed invention, and thus reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Therefore, it is submitted that Applicants' invention as set forth in independent Claims 32 and 47 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent Claims 35 and 39-41 set forth additional features of Applicants' invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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